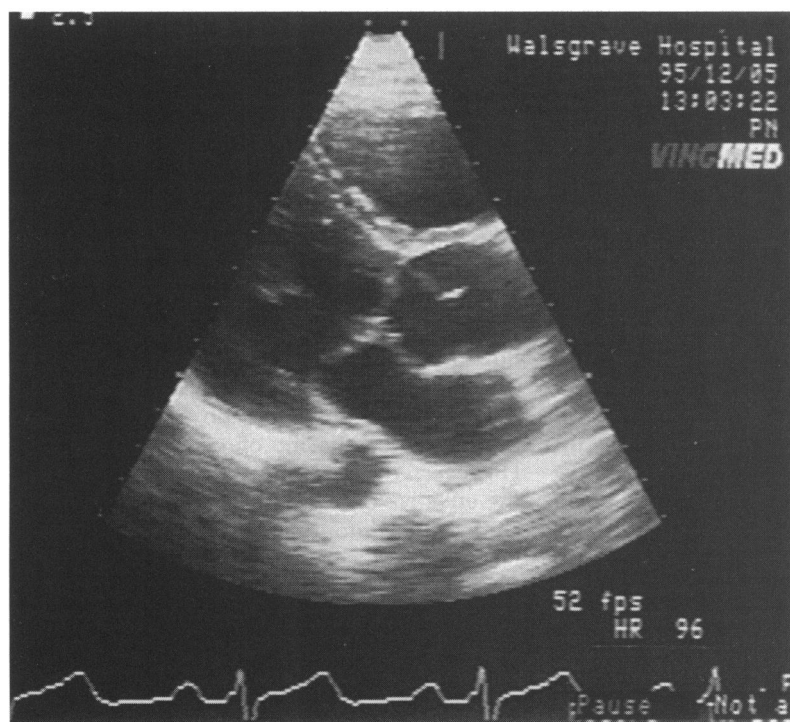


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IMAGES IN CARDIOLOGY

Echocardiographic diagnosis of a subvalvar aortic membrane



A 14 year old boy with an aortic systolic murmur complained of progressive shortness of breath on exertion over one year. Transthoracic echocardiography four years earlier had shown an aortic outflow gradient of 26 mm Hg. A repeat echocardiogram showed left ventricular hypertrophy and a gradient of 90 mm Hg across the aortic valve. He underwent cardiac catheterisation and was found to have a gradient of 60 mm Hg below the level of the aortic valve with no gradient at valve level. A repeat echocardiogram identified a subvalvar aortic membrane. He is now awaiting surgery to resect the membrane.

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